

Michigan Department of Community Health, Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Project Statewide Screening Plan

I. If it is determined that a child should be tested for lead, the schedule is:

A blood lead sample is taken at 12 and 24 months, or between 36 and 72 months if not tested previously. (A venous sample is considered confirmatory; a capillary sample, if elevated, will require confirmation with a subsequent venous sample.)

II. There are four criteria for testing a child for lead (in descending priority):

- A. Medicaid--all Medicaid-enrolled children throughout Michigan must be tested.
- B. geography--all non-Medicaid children living within certain areas (outlined below) should be tested.
- C. questionnaire--the parents or guardians of children not in one of the previous two categories should be asked specific questions to determine each child's risk. If the answer is "Yes" or "Don't know" to any of the questions, that child should be tested.
- D. physician's discretion--even if a child does not meet any of the above criteria, the physician always has the option of testing if he or she feels it is warranted.

III. Specifics of each criterion

A. Medicaid: Michigan's Medical Services Administration states that a blood lead test is **REQUIRED** for any Medicaid-eligible child at 12 and 24 months, or between 36 and 72 months if not tested previously.

B. geography:

1. ZIP codes in Michigan where testing is recommended for all children:

Any ZIP code with 12% or greater incidence of lead poisoning among children ages 12 to 36 months, in 1998.

Any ZIP code where a combination of percentage of pre-1950 housing, number of children under age six, and percentage of children under age six in poverty ranks high.

Any ZIP code with 27% or greater pre-1950 housing.

2. Based on annual review of data, ZIP codes will be re-evaluated.

C. specifics of questionnaire (subject to change annually):

1. Does the child live in (or often visit) a house built before 1950 with peeling or chipping paint? This could include a day care, preschool, or home of a relative.
2. Does the child live in (or often visit) a house built before 1978 that has been remodeled within the last year?
3. Does the child have a brother or sister (or playmate) with lead poisoning?
4. Does the child live with an adult whose job or hobby involves lead? (See chart)
5. Does the child's family use any home remedies that may contain lead? (See chart)

IV. Ongoing research

A. MDCH CLPPP will continue to monitor and analyze data on testing, elevated levels, and other risk factors at the local level, toward the possibility of new geographic recommendations annually.

B. MDCH CLPPP will continue to research the effectiveness of particular questions (and specific wording) in identifying children at risk for lead poisoning, toward the possibility of new questionnaire recommendations annually.

C. A pilot study will be conducted in several counties of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, tying child-specific immunization data to address-specific tax-assessor data, toward identifying specific children at risk for lead poisoning.